

**7Milton Town Council Meeting
Milton Library 121 Union Street
Monday, September 23, 2013, 6:30 p.m.**

**Transcriptionist: Helene Rodgvile
[Minutes are not Verbatim]**

1. Call to Order – Mayor Jones

2. Moment of Silence

3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

4. Roll Call – Mayor Jones

Vice Mayor Booros	Present
Councilman West	Present
Councilwoman Patterson	Present
Councilman Coté	Present
Councilwoman Parker-Selby	Present
Councilman Collier	Present
Mayor Jones	Present

5. Public Participation

Mayor Jones: We didn't have anybody sign up to speak at public participation. Is there anybody who wanted to speak briefly this evening?

6. Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Mayor Jones: Any additions or corrections to the agenda?

7. Agenda Approval

Councilman West: I make a motion that we approve the agenda.

Councilman Coté: Second.

Mayor Jones: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion carried.

8. Old Business – Discussion and possible vote on the following:

a. Appointment of a Land Acquisition Committee – for the purpose of an additional well location

Mayor Jones: I did not present anything to you in writing. I did take the advice of a long-standing member of our community, however, and would present to you the names of Jack Bushey, Dennis Hughes and Councilman West as our council person on the Land Acquisition Committee, Dustan Russum is in on the Town's behalf, though he does not vote. For the purpose of an additional well... I'm sorry. I'm looking for an approval for those names, pending any ethics forms that need to be completed and I don't think any of them... I think everyone's on file, as a matter of fact.

Vice Mayor Booros: I make a motion that we approve the three gentlemen that you have

appointed to the Land Acquisition Committee.

Councilwoman Patterson: I second.

Mayor Jones: Any discussion? A little bit of discussion. Definition. Councilman West, this is just for an auxiliary well location. I know that your committee talked to this council about digging another well at Well No. 5. Did your committee abandon that notion and are they looking for alternatives?

Councilman West: We're looking for alternatives in different spots in the Town. We're going to relook at the ones that were already looked at and we're going to look at a few more.

Mayor Jones: Okay. No other discussion?

Councilman West: But, but, when it comes time for them to make the recommendation of where they think it should be, I'm not going to be on this Land Acquisition Committee then if I have to vote on it, or I'll have to recuse myself. One of the two.

Vice Mayor Booros: They make the recommendation to Council, not to the Water Committee.

Mayor Jones: That's right. The Land Acquisition Committee makes the recommendation to Council.

Councilman West: Right.

Mayor Jones: Do you see any need to recuse in that case?

Seth Thompson: It's difficult to imagine a scenario where you wouldn't provide all of your information; where somehow you would have some sort of Conflict of Interest, you would be privy to information on one level, that you weren't sharing on the other level; so I don't see that as being a problem.

Councilman West: No, I don't have a Conflict of Interest. I'm just looking for the best interests of the townspeople, that we get the most for our money.

Seth Thompson: Right. Understood. I think it's a little bit different scenario then say, if somebody were on Planning and Zoning and they were privy to information that was presented at the Public Hearing, for instance, that a Council then didn't also receive, but here, since it's a recommendation... I can't imagine a scenario where the Land Acquisition Committee is not going to share the basis for it's findings.

Councilman West: Okay.

Seth Thompson: I think you're okay.

Councilman West: No, because everything that has come forth out of this Water Committee has been brought to the public's attention with the only interest that I've got is that it will help the whole town with our water situation; because up where I live, I'll be one of the first ones and Councilman Collier that will be out of water, and Councilwoman Patterson; so...

Vice Mayor Booros: The only question I would have is, since we are having a discussion on this, is have we abandoned Pennoni Associates recommendation to just dig the well next to Well No. 5 and not buy land?

Councilman West: No, we're looking into all avenues and let the Council and the townspeople decide. It's not going to be the Water Committee's...

Vice Mayor Booros: That's why they make the recommendation to the Council, not to the Water Committee.

Councilman West: That's right.

Vice Mayor Booros: But I didn't know what they were being charged with; they're not charged with looking for a spot to put a water tower, they're charged with looking for a

spot to dig a well.

Councilman West: Right.

Mayor Jones: And in the discussion, Councilman West if you do have any reservations about your ability to serve on Land Acquisition Committee and vote, I would be more than happy to name someone else. I think it's a good idea.

Councilman West: Right now, no.

Mayor Jones: Okay.

Councilman West: But as long as we keep everybody apprised and whatever Seth says, I'll abide by.

Mayor Jones: Again, even though the three of you sit on the Water Committee, you now have on a whole different responsibility.

Councilman West: Right.

Mayor Jones: Okay, end of discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion carried.

b. Adoption of the 2014 Budget and Fee Schedule

Mayor Jones: You'll find Mrs. Rogers supplied us with the budget that we need to be looking at and the corrected, updated Fee Schedule from last week.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I just have a question. We had talked about surplus of a town car and I see here that we will not be selling a town car, according to this. There was talk of an auction.

Mayor Jones: Yes and that's still moving forward. The sale of a town car, just happens to be an account and a line item that's held there in perpetuity. It doesn't ever seem to go away, but when you sell something it will engage in the action there. Yes, the auction activity is continuing on.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: We're still going to look at it?

Mayor Jones: Yes.

Councilman Coté: There's as a piece of information. Once that line item gets into the accounting system, it never goes away. It just stays with us, or until we choose a new accounting system, which I don't think we have any plans to do.

Chief Phillips: Madame Mayor, are you getting ready to vote on the budget at this time, or are we going to talk about it some more?

Mayor Jones: Council's going to vote on the budget this evening, is our intention.

Chief Phillips: Not to confuse anything, but I'd like to throw some things out there, if I could?

Mayor Jones: Okay, go ahead.

Chief Phillips: As you know on line item 5390, the fuel line, gas line; we're adding \$10,000 to the Sussex County Grant and what I'd like to do is on Auto Repair, I'd like to add \$6,000 out of that Grant. With that said, I would like to have \$4,000 of that put into the Grant and an extra \$2,000 of the \$6,000, added to that; \$13,200 to make it \$15,200.

Mayor Jones: Okay, you'll need to repeat some of that. I understood the last one. The \$13,200 to increase it by \$2,000.

Chief Phillips: Let me... On the Auto Repair line, 5450, with that being said, I'd like to take \$4,000 and actually replace the \$4,000 that's already in budget and then take the extra \$2,000... the \$6,000 total; \$4,000 put it in the budget and \$2,000 added to that line item, making it \$15,200, instead of \$13,200. With that said, I thought that would help the take home car policy, possibly. I've got one more to go next, unless you want me to wait

a minute.

Mayor Jones: Where were you taking the \$4,000 from, your first figure?

Chief Phillips: Well I'm taking everything from the Sussex County Grant. It's \$6,000 to put to that line item; but \$4,000 is going to be supplanted in the Grant and the other \$2,000 would be added to the Grant; if you know what I'm saying. The \$4,000 is going to help keep the \$13,200, which means we subtract \$4,000 out of that, out of the regular budget and the \$4,000 from the Grant will make up the difference; so saving us \$4,000 somewhere else.

Mayor Jones: What is the value of the solar sign that we're going to purchase out of Sussex County Grant?

Chief Phillips: The other \$5,000 was for that sign, yes, Ma'am.

Mayor Jones: And you have an actual quote on a sign that we can look at?

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Mayor Jones: Do you have a copy of that with you?

Chief Phillips: No, I do not, but I will get it to you and I'm waiting on the State, because the State has to put the sign up. We cannot install it ourselves, I find out; so I've talked to a guy named Jeff Reid. I'm working with him.

Mayor Jones: Okay, I want to see what the sign looks like before we work on installing it.

Chief Phillips: Okay. That's fine. No, I agree. It's basically the same thing Bethany and Rehoboth and everybody else has, it's just a solar sign with the numbers that flash when you go over the speed limit.

Mayor Jones: So that's your recommendation to Council, is to reduce... Councilman Coté on page 2, the Sussex County Grant already \$10,000 of that is encumbered, correct?

Councilman Coté: Well I would look at it on page 5. Page 2 is the revenue line; which isn't going to change.

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Mayor Jones: Okay, thank you.

Councilman Coté: About in the middle of the page, it shows \$15,000 available from Sussex County Grant for expenditures, because the first \$10,000 of that is being applied to the \$32,000 in Gas. It's not making it \$42,000; it's just paying for the first \$10,000 of the \$32,000.

Chief Phillips: That's correct. It's supplanted, yes, that's correct.

Councilman Coté: Okay, as long as we're clear on that. So then we have \$2,000 of the \$15,000 goes to Auto Repairs, or actually a total of \$6,000 goes to Auto Repairs and you want to...

Chief Phillips: Yes. And I want to put \$4,000 inside that and take \$4,000 away from that...

Councilman Coté: And make this \$15,200...

Chief Phillips: And out of the \$6,000, add the \$2,000 on top of that; reference to take home vehicles.

Councilman Coté: So that will reduce it for budget purposes, that would basically say you have \$9,000 left, before we talk about the speed sign; in Sussex County Grant money you have \$9,000 left.

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Councilman Coté: \$5,000 is for the solar sign, so then there would be...

Chief Phillips: Well \$10,000... \$6,000 and then I've got one more to go here.

Councilman Coté: Okay.

Chief Phillips: Line item 5480, Telephones, Laptops, etc., what I'd like to do is take \$4,000, supplant \$2,000 into the budget and add another \$2,000 on top of that; saving the budget \$2,000, by adding \$2,000 from the Grant and then adding \$2,000 more on top of that... I'm sorry if I'm losing you; making instead of \$9,500, making it \$11,500 and what I would like to do is find a way to keep the cellphones for the officers, because here's the problem we have. With the officers using their personal cellphone to get phone calls from victims, suspects, or undesirable people on their personal phone, I'm afraid that they may get subpoenaed to Court and whatever they have on their personal phone may get subpoenaed and it cause us a problem down the road. But we do need phones on the road when they're working by themselves; if SussCom says give us a call, we need to be able to call right away on the phone; plus like I said we have informants calling and victims calling and stuff like that, without using their cellphones. That's been my thought. I would like to say by doing that, I've taken \$4,000 out of the Sussex County Grant and \$2,000 of that will go in, knocking it down and then adding the other \$2,000 to that. Did that confuse you?

Mayor Jones: I don't agree.

Councilman Coté: So you've now spent all of the Grant.

Chief Phillips: That's correct, yes. For what it's worth, that \$5,000 may come back. I'm working on another way to pay for the sign also; the speed sign, so that other \$5,000 could be changed later on if we need it for something; if I get the speed sign through another way, if that's any consolation.

Mayor Jones: Well until we see an estimate for the sign, the pole, whatever else may be a part of this, I'm hesitant to take it down as tight as you'd like to take it and I do not agree with adding Grant money to the telephone line, but that's one opinion.

Chief Phillips: I knew there was a problem. We're trying to find money to help the employees out and that's what I was trying to do with the Grant. I just think that...

Mayor Jones: And I appreciate that.

Chief Phillips: I just think that if you all were Police Officers and you had to give out your personal cellphone, you'd be a little concerned about Joe Snuffy, or someone calling you, that you didn't really want calling you on your personal phone.

Mayor Jones: No and I wouldn't recommend it. I recommend that they call and leave messages on their voicemail at work.

Chief Phillips: Yes, but sometimes we have informants that have to give us information. They need to get it to us right away, whether they're texting or calling us. But the hold up with the sign is waiting for Mr. Reid to give me a price on the pole. He's working on that now to find out what it's going to cost.

Councilman Coté: Is the \$5,000 just for the sign; and the pole and the installation are additional?

Chief Phillips: Without talking to him right now, the \$5,000 should cover everything. Yes. If I could Mayor, I'd like to give you a copy of what the sign looks like and the company; would that be any help right at this time?

Mayor Jones: It would, thank you.

Chief Phillips: It's the same company that the other towns have been using. I think all the beach towns have been using that one. I think Milford does too.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I have a question. Do all police of the towns have cellphones? Are you aware?

Chief Phillips: I'm not sure of that answer off hand. I know most of them do, but I couldn't tell you exactly which ones do and which ones don't.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I didn't know whether that was something that's with the times, all the police now have a cellphone.

Mayor Jones: No.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: They didn't. Okay.

Chief Phillips: I believe the smaller departments do because they are by themselves and they need to be able to reach out to people and they need different information. Another thing they can do to is if they're at a traffic stop and they have somebody that doesn't have insurance, the officer can actually call the insurance company and ascertain whether your insurance is valid at that time, 24 hours a day you can call a number and find out if their insurance is good.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: They don't have that on a computer?

Chief Phillips: No, if we're on a traffic stop, they may give us a card that's not any good, or they may say I don't have my card with me; if you call and give them the information, it will tell you that they're suspended, or whatever, and then at that point we give them another ticket and tow their vehicle.

Councilman Collier: Just to satisfy my curiosity, because I tried to follow what the Chief was saying, how much money ended up being returned to surplus with him underwriting some of these costs, if any?

Councilman Coté: None.

Councilman Collier: That's what I thought, so where did it go?

Councilman Coté: It's just shifting the... There's a line for \$15,000 worth of Grant expenditures that were...

Councilman Collier: That I understand.

Councilman Coté: That were unidentified. Now essentially that line is now basically \$5,000 and it's dedicated to a solar speed sign and the rest of the money is put up into Auto Repairs and telephones if we do this.

Councilman Collier: I just want to make sure I'm reading everything right.

Mayor Jones: Here's also a recommendation or a thought. You leave the money in the Grant right now where it sits and you watch the accounts and if it looks like, and you can always amend this budget and move that money around to those accounts; but to commit it early may not be what you want to do. It still sits there.

Chief Phillips: Right and it can be changed any time so we could use it for whatever we need to use it for.

Mayor Jones: Right.

Councilman Coté: Well, I think there's an underlying issue in there that we didn't address and that is I believe we had reduced the number of cellphones to four and I think what the Chief is trying to accomplish, is to put those other basically, five, back in and if we just leave the money, we still have to make the... if we leave the money in the Grant line, does that change the underlying decision about how many cellphones the Police Department has? Four or nine? I don't know if the recruits get one. I don't know what you do for them when they're just in training.

Chief Phillips: No, not in training, just after they get on the road by themselves.

Councilman Coté: I don't know what happens to the equipment while it's sitting, as well as the equipment from the gentlemen who have left, but I think we need to look at that decision, as well; rather than just about moving the money.

Mayor Jones: Okay, well the decision was four. I thought that was where this Council left it.

Councilman Coté: Right, but what I believe the Chief was attempting... was trying to do, was to get those five put back in by moving the money from the Grant, up to the Telephone line.

Chief Phillips: I was trying to cut the budget to save so we could use money for other things, important things that we need to use it for. Council asked me to cut 10% and I did that time; and then after that we cut more and more and I'm just asking for a little bit of give back, if there's any way possible.

Councilwoman Patterson: Chief, I have a question, because Council had recommended four cellphones and I know they're Town cellphones, so they would be four town numbers; can't the officers pick them up when they come on shift and they can use these cellphones, instead of each having one dedicated to them and just have four town cellphones that they would use when they went out on shift?

Chief Phillips: That wouldn't do much good if someone's on call or if you're getting a call from an informant in the middle of the night. I've received calls and my other officers have received calls in the middle of the night. When a crime happens, we've actually had people call us and say listen, so and so did the crime in the middle of the night. You'd be surprised how many people call.

Councilwoman Patterson: But one of the officers would have that phone, because they would...

Chief Phillips: Not if they're home sleeping and if they're other phone's here, they will not have access to that phone. Actually I'm just worried about the repercussions if you were an officer and you had your personal phone and you had some personal things that you and your spouse or someone had on there, your kids picture, it could all be acceptable if they did a... the Court could get them.

Councilwoman Patterson: No, but as the town cellphones, if we had four, why couldn't they use them when they're working? Because somebody would have that cellphone while they were working, so if somebody did call as an informant, you wouldn't be home asleep with the phone not on; because if you're not on shift work, you still wouldn't... the phone wouldn't ring, because you're not required to pick up the phone.

Chief Phillips: But your informant wouldn't be calling Councilman West or Vice Mayor Booros; your informant would be calling you and if they didn't know what phone number to call, they wouldn't know who to call to give the information to...

Councilwoman Patterson: Well it would be one of the four numbers that the town would use for the town cellphones that the police use.

Chief Phillips: Yes, Ma'am. But they would be looking for Officer X, instead of Officer Y, to give the information, because that's who they work with, or who they're comfortable with, or who they...

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Has there been a misuse of cellphones in your department?

Chief Phillips: None that I'm aware of. No, Ma'am.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Not for any personal use or anything like that?

Chief Phillips: No, Ma'am.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: And you monitor them?

Chief Phillips: Yes.

Councilman West: Chief, do you get a printout every month of every call that came into those phones and what went out?

Chief Phillips: Yes, Sir.

Councilman West: Okay, because I know the State does that, so they can monitor, whether it's personal or business related.

Mayor Jones: Any more discussion?

Councilman Collier: I have a comment regarding the Fee Schedule that we were given tonight and this was discussed at our last meeting, as well. This Council voted some months back to reduce the Boat Dock Rental Fees by 20% and the Fee Schedule we were presented tonight still doesn't reflect that reduction.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Right.

Councilman Coté: That's probably my fault. I don't believe I communicated that to Mrs. Rogers.

Councilman Collier: And that's quite alright, we can correct that now and that's fine, but that was the only issue I had with the Fee Schedule, that it needs to reflect those new rates that we voted on.

Councilman Coté: I believe those were just the Boat Deck section?

Councilman Collier: Yes, that's the only place. It looks like the 5th, 6th and 7th lines on the Fee Schedule.

Councilman Coté: And they are \$150 should be \$120; \$100 should be \$80; and the \$1,200 should be \$1,000.

Councilman Collier: \$960.

Councilman Coté: \$960.

Councilman Collier: With regard to the budget, I'm still confused, because what I thought I heard the Chief say was that he was willing to shift funds from his Grant and increase two lines by \$2,000 each, based on what the numbers are that I read here; and somehow we got down to where we only had \$5,000 left, but I only see \$4,000 coming out.

Councilman Coté: \$4,000 for the phones and \$6,000 being put into Auto Repairs.

Councilman Collier: So we're taking that Auto Repair line instead of \$15,200, then you're going to take it to \$19,200? Is that what I gathered?

Councilman Coté: I believe it was...

Councilman Collier: The documents I have both say \$13,200...

Councilman Coté: \$13,200.

Councilman Collier: And I thought I heard him give the figure of \$15,200.

Councilman Coté: \$15,200.

Councilman Collier: So that's \$2,000.

Councilman Coté: \$2,000 more and he's committing \$4,000 from the Grant to Auto Repairs, so it's not available for anything else.

Councilman Collier: And I understand that. So, but, if he's committing that, doesn't that put something back into the surplus?

Councilman Coté: Well, no, because we had \$15,000 in the Grant expense line that wasn't committed to anything; now we know what we're spending it for, as opposed to we didn't before.

Councilman Collier: I'm confused. Obviously I'm confused. So let me do this again.

Councilman Coté: Try this. If you look at the Grant expense line that says \$15,000.

Councilman Collier: That I get.

Councilman Coté: Make it \$13,000; put a number of sub lines under that; one is \$2,000 for Telephone...

Councilman Collier: That makes \$13,000.

Councilman Coté: One is \$4,000 for Repairs and Maintenance.

Councilman Collier: Okay, now we're down to \$9,000.

Councilman Coté: Now we're going to increase the Repairs budget by \$2,000; so that's another \$2,000 and the proposal was to increase the Telephone budget by \$2,000.

Councilman Collier: Alright so I get that. I guess what's confusing me is if you're increasing a line that was \$13,200, another \$2,000; that's only \$15,000, but you're telling me we're putting \$6,000 into it? So where did the other four go?

Councilman Coté: Basically, he's just committing what the Grant is for. We could spend the \$15,000 on...

Mayor Jones: No, I understand Councilman Collier the numbers aren't appearing to add up. If he's adding \$2,000 to his Auto Repair 5450, that makes it a total of \$15,200, but I don't know where we keep talking about, that's in addition to \$4,000 of what?

Councilman Collier: Yes. So, somewhere there's dollars...

Mayor Jones: There are already \$14,000 in there?

Councilman Collier: Somewhere there are dollars floating in my mind, so that's what... If I understood what the Chief said, he wanted to reduce that line \$4,000 and then bring it back up to \$15,200 with Grant funds. Is that correct, Chief?

Chief Phillips: I want to add the \$4,000 back to replace the \$4,000 we took out and then add an extra \$2,000 on top of that, yes.

Mayor Jones: \$6,000.

Councilman Collier: Okay, so now I understand.

Chief Phillips: Sorry about that.

Councilman Collier: That doesn't make it \$15,200, that makes it \$19,200.

Chief Phillips: Which one are we talking about?

Councilman Collier: I'm looking at the line that says Repairs and Maintenance Auto, 5450 and currently on the latest and greatest sheet I have, it says that we've allocated \$13,200 to that line.

Chief Phillips: Okay, but what I'm saying is \$13,200, subtract \$4,000 out of that.

Councilman Collier: So that now takes it to \$9,200.

Chief Phillips: Right and then add \$4,000 from the Grant, to that and it brings us back up to \$13,200 and then add that extra \$2,000 of that \$6,000 and it brings us back up to \$15,200.

Councilman Collier: Okay, so where did we put the first \$4,000 we took out is what I'm asking?

Councilman Coté: You could just leave it as a sub-heading, as a... The \$15,000 has already been reduced from \$25,000, by \$10,000 that's dedicated to Gasoline.

Councilman Collier: And I understand that. What's confusing me and I hate to be obstinate about this, but if you reduce that line by \$4,000 and then supplement it with the Grant at \$4,000; where did the first \$4,000 you took out of it go; is what I'm asking? Because that's what I'm gathering he's saying, unless I'm not getting his explanation. Essentially what I got from the Chief saying is he's reducing that line by \$4,000 and then taking \$6,000 in Grant money and putting it back. So there's \$4,000 floating somewhere. I mean, you know. If I got \$20 bucks in this pocket and I take \$6 out of it and then I take...

Councilman Coté: Uh-huh, well you've got \$15,000 bucks in that pocket and...

Councilman Collier: Right. I understand the money coming out of the Grant, what I don't

understand is, if he reduced that by \$4,000, so I'm assuming that's \$4,000 back into the General Fund, so to speak and then he supplanted that, or supplemented it with \$6,000 from his Grant; so there's \$4,000 out there floating somewhere, is what I'm getting at and my question is, does that go back into the surplus at this point in time?

Councilman Coté: I'm trying to...

Councilman Collier: Visualize what I'm saying?

Councilman Coté: I'm trying to... Yeah and I'm trying to come up with an explanation that works for everybody.

Councilman Collier: Well, I'm listening.

Councilman Coté: I know, I've tried once or twice; that's why I'm trying to come up with another one.

Mayor Jones: Are we working on this issue or are we moving on?

Councilman Coté: I'm trying to come up with...

Councilman Collier: Here's how I visualize it. Maybe this will help. We started with this amount, so...

Councilman Coté: We didn't reduce anything by \$4,000.

Councilman Collier: But that's the explanation I heard. He basically said I'm giving back \$4,000 and then I'm going to take \$6,000 out of my Grant and increase the total line to \$15,200; so where did the \$4,000 that he gave back go, is my question? Is that pretty reasonable Chief? Is that how you just explained it, or did I miss something?

Chief Phillips: Yes, exactly. I'm guessing the money goes back to the kitty, but I don't know what that means.

Councilman Collier: This is what my question's been all along, so if it goes back to the kitty, then...

Chief Phillips: So they can use it for what they need to use it for, or whatever.

Councilman Collier: Alright so...

Councilman Coté: But it doesn't, because \$15,000 was already spent. The budget has \$15,000 of Grant expenditures.

Councilman Collier: What I got from the Chief was he took \$4,000, replaced it with Grant money and then added an additional \$2,000 in Grant money; so if he took the \$4,000 out and replaced it with Grant money, where did the \$4,000 that he replaced it, go? Where does it go? That's all I'm asking and it's not really a great accounting question, but...

Councilman Coté: It's like the Gasoline. We didn't even put it in the \$15,000. Sussex County Grant expenses are really \$25,000 and it was written in here as \$15,000, because \$10,000 was dedicated to Gasoline.

Councilman Collier: I understand.

Councilman Coté: The \$4,000 or \$6,000 you're looking for...

Councilman Collier: Right now I'm just looking for the first \$4,000; we haven't even gotten to the next group.

Councilman Coté: Well the first \$4,000 is easy, because we're increasing the budgets on those two items by \$2,000 apiece; if we do this.

Councilman Collier: But that's not the way the Chief explained it. What I heard him very clearly say was \$13,200, take out \$4,000 and return it to the General Operating Expenses...

Chief Phillips: The magic thing is where's that \$4,000 going to land, if we do what I've asked to do?

Councilman Collier: Yes, what he asked was to commit \$6,000 of the Grant to increase the total line by \$2,000; so there's still \$4,000 floating out there somewhere. So I'm assuming, first he asked for a reduction of the line and then he asked for an increase, based on his Grant funds.

Councilman Coté: I'm the accountant and I can't follow what you guys are talking about.

Mayor Jones: The Chief has indicated that he will remove \$4,000 of taxpayer responsibility from that line item, Auto Repairs, 5450, okay? He is reducing \$4,000 of the taxpayer's responsibility, therefore, that number would flow back on page 7 to Revenue Over Expenditures; because now you're going to encumber his Grant.

Councilman Collier: That's how I see it. I just wanted to make sure that that's where the \$4,000 went, that's all. So now we're looking at instead of a surplus of \$12,000, our surplus has grown to \$16,000; is what I gather, but I just want to make sure I was on the same page.

Mayor Jones: I didn't hear the Chief re-delegate that \$4,000 anywhere. Did you?

Chief Phillips: The actual just floating out there? No, I just put it back in the kitty so it could help out wherever it needs to help out, since we're having problems balancing the budget. That was my plan.

Councilman Collier: Thank you, Chief.

Mayor Jones: Again, as we sit and struggle with this at the last minute, it's honorable that you came up with this, but does Council feel the need to make a decision on these items and shift this out of this Grant tonight? That's the other question on the table. If we do, then let's put it together, get your numbers right and make a vote on the decision to change some things that this will certainly change.

Chief Phillips: It's definitely going to save us money.

Councilman Collier: And I understand that and I appreciate that very much, Chief. I just wanted to make sure that I understood where that \$4,000 was going to end up at the end of the day. Alright, so now we're up to... Okay, so, explain to us again what your thought was with the Telephone Line with the numbers.

Chief Phillips: This is going to be a confusing one, too.

Councilman Collier: Well, just try me.

Chief Phillips: It's \$4,000...

Councilman Collier: So you want to...

Chief Phillips: Let me start this way. It's \$9,500. I'll subtract \$2,000 from that.

Councilman Collier: Alright, so there's \$2,000 sitting out there of taxpayer's dollars.

Chief Phillips: Then I want to go back and put \$4,000 back in it.

Councilman Collier: Okay and you want to supplement that with \$4,000 Grant money.

Chief Phillips: \$2,000 and then add \$2,000 more on top of it. Yes.

Councilman Collier: Okay, so you took it down to \$7,500 and now it's back to \$11,500, so that's another \$2,000 back to the surplus side; I guess that would be the term for it. Okay, now I understand. Does that make sense Council?

Councilman Coté: Well, I'm still mulling it over.

Councilman Collier: I didn't mean to make your life difficult. Honestly, I didn't.

Councilman Coté: Are you sure?

Councilman Collier: I'm positive.

Chief Phillips: There's \$6,000 floating around somewhere, we just don't know where to put it at, at this time, I guess.

Councilman Collier: Well, I'm sure we can find someplace. I just want to make sure we

have it to put.

Mayor Jones: A question as we're looking at that Fee Schedule, Mrs. Rogers. I've been concerned about the Revenue of \$6,000 being added to the budget under Code Violation Fees, \$4,600. We jumped to \$6,000 this year. Council agreed to a \$200 per hour grass cutting fee. Now I know what we pay the contractor who cuts for us. Let's just say since this went into effect this summer, what has been the return on pulling those violations in?

Kristy Rogers: I don't have an exact figure, but in normal cases, I'm guessing that 20% has been collected from what we've billed out so far. A lot of times the charges have been on vacant properties that are in bankruptcy or foreclosure, the Sheriff sale and until they do so, or until a mortgage company buys them back, a bank; that's generally when we will receive the revenue from this billing.

Mayor Jones: But we do have live people out there who are getting billed \$200 to have their lawns cut.

Kristy Rogers: We do.

Mayor Jones: We could be charging so much that we end up not collecting it, is what I'm afraid of.

Vice Mayor Booros: Can I ask why... I know Robin's here, but Mr. Trotta's not. Why we anticipate collecting so much more next year, if we're not collecting it this year?

Mayor Jones: I believe it's based on what violations are already being identified this year and they expect that that will carry over and I would say by the number increase into next year and Robin, feel free to correct me if that's incorrect; but that's still putting revenue on the books and you're not offsetting it with anything coming back; the payments for it.

Vice Mayor Booros: That was my question.

Mayor Jones: So...

Vice Mayor Booros: If we're only collecting 20% of it, why would we have such a big spike in revenue next year on this same type of Code Violations?

Councilman Coté: I believe the \$200 only became effective... It hasn't been in effect all year, not even most of the year. It's only been in effect for... Robin?

Vice Mayor Booros: The summer months when we cut the grass?

Robin Davis: Yes, there was a disparity in the two sections of the Code. The Fee Schedule said \$200 and the Code says \$50 and then that was corrected. So now we're starting to bill out the \$200.

Councilman Coté: When was that corrected?

Robin Davis: It was maybe... I don't know for sure, probably the May/June timeframe, maybe.

Councilman Collier: It's not that long. Actually it was corrected prior to the last election, because it was corrected before I took a seat on the Council. I'm pretty sure of that, because I didn't vote on it. So that would be my best guess, unless I slept through that vote.

Mayor Jones: It is actually a much larger issue that may not need to be debated here tonight, as we try to pass the budget, but until we have a clear cut means to collect these violations, you can put as many violations on your revenue, as you want; but we're going to have to figure out a way to collect them. That's my only concern about the Fee Schedule that we are getting ready to also vote on, with this budget.

Councilman Collier: Well the Fee Schedule is like the budget, to be reviewed at any

given time and if need be adjusted accordingly. One thing that we haven't really talked about anywhere in all these discussions we've had about the budget, is Capital Improvement and Capital Expenditure Projects; we haven't really said much about them one way or the other. I know that there's a little bit of money set aside for Streets, but it's a relatively small amount and coming nowhere close to the amount that the Streets and Sidewalks Committee targeted.

Mayor Jones: Needs.

Councilman Collier: And there's a lot of it in the Proprietary Fund and we've never really discussed if we want to approve all of those that were submitted in the Proprietary Fund or not. I don't even think we have a Capital sheet in this thing tonight.

Mayor Jones: I do have one and I'll share with you, but that's my only copy.

Councilman Coté: Well, there's one for everybody if you want to pass them down, but I would like to deal with the Capital Budget separate from the Operating Budget, so we can at least finish one before we have two of them up in the air.

Vice Mayor Booros: I agree.

Councilman Collier: Well it's all the budget, but if you want to approve it in sections, I'm okay with that too.

Councilman Coté: One comes before the other, because the Capital is done from the surplus.

Councilman Collier: That's correct, Sir.

Councilman Coté: So we have to figure out what the surplus is and we're not talking about a big number.

Councilman Collier: No.

Vice Mayor Booros: Well I'll make the motion that we approve the Operating Budget, as amended this evening with the police information and the health insurance information?

Councilman Coté: The updated health insurance information is in here. Unfortunately, it did not have as big a positive effect as I would have hoped. In redoing it, it appears that an individual was not included in the original budget.

Vice Mayor Booros: So once the adjustment was made, that person was added in. We didn't save much from last week to this week.

Councilman Coté: No, basically we saved a little bit in the General Fund and gave it back in the Proprietary Fund.

Vice Mayor Booros: Well I will amend my motion, again. No I won't. I make a motion that we approve the Operating Budget as presented here tonight with the changes that were made here tonight.

Councilman Collier: I'll second it for the sake of discussion. We have one small underlying issue that we haven't resolved and that has to do with the number of cellphones within the Police Department. Are we going to restore to the full number, or not? Because I think we pretty much made that decision a week or two ago, to reduce them. So, I'm just asking.

Vice Mayor Booros: I think the Chief's offer of the money up from the grant was to restore their cellphones.

Councilman Collier: Alright, so do we have to do a separate action to do that, or can we do that all in one swoop? That's all I'm asking.

Vice Mayor Booros: My motion included the additional monies that the Chief put in there to add the cellphones back.

Councilman Collier: It's the only discussion I have. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Anyone else? We're going to take a roll call vote on the motion that's on the table:

Vice Mayor Booros	Yes
Councilman West	Yes
Councilwoman Patterson	Yes
Councilman Coté	Yes
Councilwoman Parker-Selby	Yes
Councilman Collier	Yes
Mayor Jones	No

Mayor Jones: Motion carried. Let's look at our Capital Improvement Budget.

Councilman Coté: I believe this is the last version we had received and this was a number of projects that had hit the priority list at that time. I took this out of the August 7th budget that was sent by the Town Manager.

Mayor Jones: Okay, so we have, just to make sure everybody's on the same page, because I do not have the copy that you gave out tonight. I think if I'm still on the right page, we have under Street Repairs \$14,609. Is that correct?

Councilman Coté: Well that's the amount from the Municipal Street Aid that's in the Operating Budget and it's slightly different then that, but I think this was used make something balance, because it's \$14,369 in the Operating Budget.

Mayor Jones: Okay. So that now is the new General Fund capital expense \$14,369?

Councilman Coté: No. That's spending without a project(s) attached to it is spending approved in the Operating Budget.

Mayor Jones: Okay, so we have nothing in the General Fund Capital Expense?

Councilman Coté: Well we have the surplus...

Mayor Jones: I counted that up with the money that flowed back as \$18,686.05.

Councilman Coté: That sounds about right. Yeah.

Councilman Collier: Okay, so then what you're telling me is everything I see on this page is already more or less within this budget, that we just approved, the Operating Budget.

Councilman Coté: I'm not sure I understand the question.

Councilman Collier: Okay, Police Capital Expense, \$5,000. Is that already within the budget that we just approved, or not?

Councilman Coté: Well, I'm going to have to look.

Councilman Collier: Okay. That was just my question. I wasn't picking.

Mayor Jones: My copy has it under Not Funded.

Councilman Coté: Well...

Chief Phillips: Well that \$6,000 that I have floating out there, that would be a good place to put a little bit of that, if you wanted to.

Councilman Coté: Let me just look here, because we have lots of Repairs and Maintenance Building, approved in the Operating Budget for \$5,000. I don't know that that's...

Vice Mayor Booros: I have a copy of the Chief's original submittal thing that listed it all out, if somebody wants to see it.

Mayor Jones: But it is in the Operating Budget, which we just passed.

Councilman Coté: \$5,000 is and I, for the sake of the discussion, I'm going to say that

that's the same \$5,000.

Mayor Jones: Alright.

Councilman Collier: Alright, so then the other items would be like the Edmund's Code Software \$13,500.

Councilman Coté: I thought we had...

Robin Davis: I think that was removed.

Councilman Coté: I thought that was removed at some point, as well.

Councilman Collier: Well, it's still here.

Robin Davis: There was an extra \$1,000 in the Operating Budget for the current system...

Councilman Collier: Okay, then the other things that I see, I see a server and a router; I guess that was last year's proposal, not this year's. That's last years. Alright, so then that pretty much answers that all on the...

Councilman Coté: And the closer in columns are items for well... These look like projects that aren't done yet, Street Projects, the \$2,966, the \$40,942, the \$9,300. Now the \$40,000 was the Shipbuilder's project?

Councilman Collier: These say expenditures at the top. They're on the Revenue/ Expenditures side, so I would have to assume they were expenditures.

Councilman Coté: Well I didn't make this one up, so I don't know.

Mayor Jones: Just as a matter of bookkeeping, Mrs. Rogers, didn't we purchase this truck already. This is this year's Proprietary Fund money, wasn't it?

Kristy Rogers: That's correct.

Mayor Jones: Okay, thank you.

Councilman Collier: I guess the things for discussion for this year's expenditures and Proprietary Fund is I see a laptop upgrade; mount air cards; Shipbuilder's tower; six hydrants; one-call concepts, which would be for mapping; cut-off saw; plate tamp; water conversion kits; ice maker; contingency for security fence project. Mr. Russum, can you tell me what additional for camera, etc., what that note means on that?

Dustan Russum: The cameras were for up around the water plant. They said that could be purchased through that Grant also, if we'd like to.

Councilman Collier: Okay.

Dustan Russum: Personally, I don't think we need cameras up there. We're getting ready to put a big, tall fence up; I think that should be enough.

Councilman Collier: So, you're saying, that if we struck that line, you'd have no objections?

Dustan Russum: Yes, I wouldn't have any problems with that.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Before you make that decision, where would these cameras be on top of the...

Dustan Russum: They would just be around the buildings.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Just around the buildings?

Dustan Russum: There is no designated area. This was something under that Grant was for security fencing and cameras.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: was that part of Homeland Security?

Dustan Russum: Correct.

Mayor Jones: But given the rate right now, we'll be lucky that that money covers the fencing.

Dustan Russum: Well, if we changed the design of the fence, we're definitely going to

have enough money, because the price that was given for the fence 4 or 5 years ago, was \$30,000, to do all three locations and now we're looking at black aluminum, wrought iron fencing.

Vice Mayor Booros: That was chain link, black chain link.

Dustan Russum: Yes, what I had done five years ago was just black chain link. Now that the design has been changed, I think you're looking... chain link fence was like \$40 some dollars a foot; now this other is \$140 a foot; so big difference.

Vice Mayor Booros: So it's doubtful there will be money left for a camera.

Dustan Russum: Correct.

Mayor Jones: I also sat through some of the Water Committee meetings. I don't see the Water Conservation Kits and their true necessity at this time. We're still, as far as I know, working on passing a Water Conservation Ordinance and the dates and times that need to come back and visit that again, so that and what is the need for an ice maker?

Dustan Russum: The ice maker is used for when we collect our samples and also for keeping ice in the coolers for the guys while we're working. We used to have an ice maker in the well house and it blew up.

Mayor Jones: If you're keeping water samples, wouldn't a small refrigerator of some sort work?

Dustan Russum: No, you've got to have ice to carry them to the lab; they've got to be kept at a certain temperature.

Mayor Jones: What do you do now?

Dustan Russum: We buy the ice out of our pocket and take the receipts back to Town Hall.

Councilman Collier: So how many bags of ice you buy every week?

Dustan Russum: I knew you were going to ask me that. Some months we're buying a bag just about every day and then in the winter months, we're not out in the heat, cutting grass; it's less.

Mayor Jones: Where are we right now on the Shipbuilder's tower; the company that was going to do the initial work?

Dustan Russum: I haven't heard any more. I'm looking at picking that back up. Win had started that and I'm jumping into where he left off with that.

Mayor Jones: Because we had encumbered some money towards that this year, when we amended the budget.

Dustan Russum: I know the engineers' have been working on it and that's as far as I know.

Mayor Jones: Mrs. Rogers, are we paying anything out on that project yet to anybody?

Kristy Rogers: I'm not sure at this time, but I think it's \$17,000 that was encumbered to be used before September 30th.

Mayor Jones: And do you think we will use that?

Kristy Rogers: I'm not sure where the project stands.

Mayor Jones: Okay.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: The six hydrants, these are the fire hydrants I'm assuming, correct?

Dustan Russum: Yes.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Where would they be, do you know right off, where would these be?

Dustan Russum: Well we actually just changed one out on 16 this year, that came

unexpectedly.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Is that the one across from my house? That one?

Dustan Russum: No, that one there actually can be taken out of service. According to the engineers, there's a certain footage of range we've got to be between hydrants and that old hydrant there, it can actually be taken out of service, but right on up from your house...

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Yes, I saw that.

Dustan Russum: we put a new one in, because the lead content in it was extremely high; it was all leaded joints, so as this new law is ready to come into effect January 1st, it was already opened, so we...

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Where are the other ones around town?

Dustan Russum: There's some over here around Mill Street, I think there's two over here; two on Mullers; we've got one more out here on Chestnut that's got to be taken out; and I've got two over here off of Bay and Atlantic.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: So you're taking them out or replacing them?

Dustan Russum: Replacing them. The life expectancy of a fire hydrant is 30 years.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I talked to someone else like that. I was curious about that. And this is about \$33,000 to replace those six?

Dustan Russum: Yes and I figured in there, because if I have to cut the road up to put hot mix back in, instead of putting cold patch in there, to hot mix them when we're complete; sometimes you run into some of our older pipes and they require different fittings; so sometimes those fittings can be a little more pricey. Or if I get down in there and I something breaks on the old valve, going to the hydrant, I got enough there.

Mayor Jones: Are you just projecting six replacements? Is that just supply?

Dustan Russum: I don't have that list with me, but I have a list of the dates of all the hydrants that were 30 years plus in the town. If my memory is correct, there's more than six. I was just starting with six this year and then next year work on the next group and then year three work on another group; because I didn't want to be sitting in a position twenty years from now and we've got 100 hydrants that need to be replaced; so I'm just slowly phasing it in.

Mayor Jones: Okay, so to understand you, you're not waiting; you'll be changing those hydrants out this year?

Dustan Russum: Correct.

Vice Mayor Booros: Mr. Russum, what is the... you said in January the lead thing goes into effect?

Dustan Russum: Yes, EPA is putting in effect a new lead law. Any part that we put in a water system has to be lead free. If we are repairing any part of the water main and we see a lead joint; per se if I was taking this out of my system, I can't put it back in, because it's got lead content.

Vice Mayor Booros: But you don't have to replace every fire hydrant that has lead joints on them.

Dustan Russum: No, but if we dig one up, if one of them is broken and the way I understood the law is if I dig it up to repair it and I identify that it's a lead joint, I've got to replace it.

Vice Mayor Booros: And there's no EPA Grant money out there available to help municipalities?

Dustan Russum: None at this time. I've actually asked that through Rural Water; is there

any help out there; and they're kicking some things around, because they realize it's going to be an expense; parts are increasing 30%.

Vice Mayor Booros: Thank you.

Councilman Collier: Another question for you, Mr. Russum. One-call Con. I guess this is supposed to be Concepts, not Concerts, mapping. Is that to map your water system?

Dustan Russum: Yes, that is to map the entire water system, all the way up to the curb stops of every home.

Councilman Collier: Does that include some sort of a software database for you to access these maps, or is that just for the actual gathering of the data; and we have to look at securing something in order to view the data?

Dustan Russum: When it's all said and done, there's going to be a database; because my goal is to number one have a database in Town Hall. If we need to look up something, we can punch it up; or if we're out on a leak, we'll have the laptop with us and we can identify where's our closest valve? What kind of pipe we're dealing with, so we know what we're getting into before we tackle into it.

Councilman Collier: Okay, but that price covers all that.

Dustan Russum: Correct.

Vice Mayor Booros: Mr. Russum, do you know the last time the system was mapped?

Dustan Russum: I couldn't tell you when. A lot of the old maps we have now are not correct and a lot of things have been tossed away.

Mayor Jones: So you would also have the ability to add new data.

Dustan Russum: Correct and as we're repairing... Any time we're out on repairs, this will also help us for budgeting for upcoming years, as we go out on leaks, take Atlantic Street, for example, I believe I'm up to about nine repairs now on the services; so as we go into make a repair, I can log into it, GPS it right there and put in what parts I use to repair it and why did it leak and everything will be documented, so twenty years from now we can look back and say we might want to start budgeting now to repair some of this, because of the life expectancy.

Councilman Collier: Alright, thank you. I've got one other comment. I did the math, so if the average bag of ice costs \$2.50 and you used five bags of ice a week, for an entire year that would be \$650, but you already said that you just do it in the summer months and that it reduces greatly in the winter months, when all you have to do is carry a sample; so if we had to make due for a year or two without an ice maker, that would be okay.

Mayor Jones: Any other comments on removing Water Conservation Kits, the ice maker and the contingency project, the security fence project?

Councilman Collier: I have another question for Mr. Russum. Actually, it's two questions. What are the condition of the current cut-off saw and plate tamp that you use?

Dustan Russum: The plate tamp we do not have one.

Councilman Collier: You do not have a plate tamp?

Dustan Russum: No.

Councilman Collier: You have an old jumping jack tamp?

Dustan Russum: Yes, we've got an old one that was left here several years ago that we fixed it and made it work.

Councilman Collier: Okay and the cut-off saw, I'm assuming that's...

Dustan Russum: It's one that we have...

Councilman Collier: It's a standard concrete saw?

Dustan Russum: Yes, it's six year's old and she's giving us some problems. She doesn't want to stay running and she's left us in some bad spots.

Councilman Collier: Alright.

Mayor Jones: Do you have a calculator? Would you like to count up what these figures are now for the Capital Expenditures out of...

Councilman Collier: Okay, what's left is that what you're asking?

Mayor Jones: Out of the Proprietary Fund.

Councilman Collier: I have \$110,260.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Does that exclude the mapping?

Councilman Collier: That includes the mapping.

Mayor Jones: No, that included the mapping.

Councilman Collier: The only thing we removed were the Water Conservation Kits, the ice maker and the contingency for the security fence project.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Okay, the Water Conservation Kits, what are they? I'm sorry.

Councilman Collier: Mr. Russum would have to answer that.

Dustan Russum: What they were, one of my jobs and duties is to always strive toward conserving water for Town. We are looking at changing some things up with our water, only certain times when you can irrigate, but this is just another step above to help us conserve water and in this packet was some literature, a toilet tummy... what a toilet tummy is, it goes in your toilet tank, so that if your toilet holds, just for sake, two gallons of water, now it's only going to hold a gallon and a half of water; so it reduces the amount of water that is flushed down the toilet and also some dye capsules, that went into your toilet to see if your flapper, or to see if any water was leaking inside of your toilet, by looking in the toilet bowl; they were just some items that were all together in one packet.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: But who would get these? For the Town, or...

Dustan Russum: Yes, Town residents.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Residents.

Dustan Russum: Correct.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: At their request? Or the Town's suggestion?

Dustan Russum: That was something that was up in the air in discussion in the early stages of the budget; would we either a) give them to them, b) charge them for them and there was never a decision made on where we were at on that.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: My thought is with a lot of the new conservative toilets and so forth, I don't think that might be necessary, because most of the building and all has new or remodeling and what have you. But we still have some homes that may need maybe some education on that. Okay that clears me up on that one.

Councilman Collier: Alright, so I guess I need to run my mouth some more. It seems to me we have, we're still sitting here, in the General Revenue with about \$18,000 in surplus and not wanting to be the guy that takes it all, but I would like to see \$10,000 of that put into the Street Repairs line, under Capital Expenditures. It will not cover all of the projects that we need to do, but it makes a dent and if we're able to gain some community transportation funding, it will help offset that a little bit; so that would be my proposal for the rest of Council.

Dustan Russum: I have a question. Were you looking in here for capital, unless I'm not seeing it, in for the Streets issue with the signs and the streetlights?

Councilman Collier: I do not see it in here and you're correct.

Dustan Russum: Because that's going to be another issue down the road. The way I proposed the budget for this, was to break it down I think it was 5 or 6 years; so it would be a small expense, instead of at a year 2019 we're sitting at \$30,000, we need to spend.

Councilman Collier: You had some scenarios and I'm glad you brought that up, because it kind of slipped my mind; you had some scenarios that funded it at various levels with the minimal level being \$2,500 per year. Is that correct?

Dustan Russum: I believe so. I've got it right here. Because that's something that's going to be out of my control; that's a law that's coming into effect within five years.

Councilman Collier: You have the paperwork, because I do not have it.

Dustan Russum: Yes. If we break it down, starting in 2014, I had it done two different ways, but you're looking at if you did it from 2014 to 2018, it would cost us \$2,500 a year and if we wanted to do more... You're correct. I had it broken down a couple of different ways. If we spent \$2,500 each year, because for instance, Stop Signs in the Town of Milton, there are a total of 116 Stop Signs; there are 43 of the Stop Signs that are non-compliant. If we go ahead and replace twelve of them this year out of the 43 that are non-compliant, you're looking at \$2,300; Yield Signs, there are a total of one Yield Sign in the Town and to replace that one would be \$87; Do Not Enter, there's nine total in the Town; just to give you a general idea of how it's broken down.

Councilman Collier: So \$2,500 would get you started on your replacement program this year, with an eye to the future; possibly having to increase this line.

Dustan Russum: Correct and one of the things with dealing with the State with this and also attending some classes with University of Delaware T-2 Center, as long as we're making efforts, setting forth an effort, that we are trying to be compliant; come 2018 and we're not completed with this project, they'll say okay you've set a goal and you're working towards it, so we can... there's very little bit of headway here, but there's a little bit as long as you're setting forth an effort.

Councilman Collier: Yes, well that's generally the idea.

Vice Mayor Booros: Does that cost include the breakaway poles?

Dustan Russum: Yes.

Mayor Jones: So if we start with \$18,686 and put \$10,000 into Street Repairs, \$2,500 this year for signs; we have a balance of \$6,186.05; that might be a place to stop. Only from the standpoint of it sits in the account, unless our Treasurer says we absolutely have to take it to zero, we may have a couple of things, including some of the things that we're talking about tonight on the expense side of the Town.

Councilman Coté: I think we're talking about bringing the surplus to zero?

Mayor Jones: Yes.

Councilman Coté: I don't think we'd be required to do that.

Mayor Jones: I'm just saying, unless someone else needs to take it further then that, at this moment.

Councilman Collier: A couple of things, I would just like to put out on the table before we go to any kind of... What's the feeling generally among the Council of going from a six-month review, to quarterly reviewing our budget options; since we're running so close and there's been some mention off and on during this budgetary process of some revenue that may come drifting in that we're not counting on and we may find places to apply that, or we may find our revenues down and need to make cuts before we see the expense lines? I'm just throwing it out there for discussion. I don't know that it requires

an action of Council, but it is certainly a consideration; looking at quarterly reviews, instead of six-month reviews, keeps a little better handle on the budget; on our expenses. Councilwoman Parker-Selby: I sort of like the idea, because my first time doing this Town budget, is like wow. I've been around a lot of budgets, but this has taken a lot of time but I kind of like that; so you can keep a better hand on what's going on. That's my opinion.

Mayor Jones: I'm not opposed to that.

Councilwoman Patterson: I think it sounds like a good idea.

Vice Mayor Booros: Good idea to me.

Councilman West: Me, too.

Councilman Collier: Well, Mr. Treasurer?

Councilman West: If Councilman Collier wants to make that a motion, I'll second it.

Councilman Collier: Well, first what I'd like to do is put a budget in place and then we'll go from there; so with that being said and just getting the general feeling of Council, I would like to make a motion that we approve our Capital Expenses Budget as amended this evening.

Councilman West: I'll second that.

Mayor Jones: Any further discussion? We'll take a roll call vote on this, as well please:

Vice Mayor Booros	Yes
Councilman West	Yes
Councilwoman Patterson	Yes
Councilman Coté	Yes
Councilwoman Parker-Selby	Yes
Councilman Collier	Yes
Mayor Jones	Yes

Mayor Jones: Motion carried.

9. New Business - Discussion and possible vote on the following:

a. Hiring process

Mayor Jones: You'll find in your package this evening that Mrs. Rogers supplied us, a little bit of information here about how we had gone about this in the last go round. I would certainly say this is fairly standard practice, but I would also like to open up the Council to a little bit of thinking outside of the box, whether or not you wish to commit immediately to a new hiring process and advertising; whether or not you would like to discuss talent among our present staff; even the thought of an interim Town Manager. Now we do have a meeting noticed for next Monday. It will be an Executive Session where we will talk about some Personnel issues, so that will be opened to us, but I've not gotten a real feel from the Council about what they feel the next step should be here, so it's time to discuss that.

Seth Thompson: Madame Mayor, if I could weigh in from a legal perspective, the Charter allows the Council, in the absence of a Town Manager, you can appoint or designate somebody to act as an interim Town Manager. In terms of the process, the Town Council can also impose any sort of qualifications that they feel are necessary and in thinking about that, the advertising needs to occur under your Town Code, unless there's a determination by Council that one of two exceptions apply and one is that

there's one person who's already employed at the Town who wishes to be considered for the vacant position and for whom the vacant position represents a logical promotion from the position currently held; or if in the opinion of the Personnel Officer, a condition exists which requires that such employee must be hired immediately, in order to avoid a serious disruption of services. So if neither of those apply, then you need to go through the competitive, opened advertising process.

Vice Mayor Booros: Immediately?

Seth Thompson: There isn't a time frame in your Code and again, the Charter allows you to put an interim person in place if that's... Frankly, the process should take some time. I mean it shouldn't be done overnight.

Vice Mayor Booros: But we don't have to post an ad this week.

Seth Thompson: Correct. Correct.

Vice Mayor Booros: That's my question.

Seth Thompson: And the other element would be if the Council does intend to post an ad, we need to figure out what qualifications are going to go in there, basically. If you're going to require that the person have at least, I think in the old ad it was at least a Bachelor's, but then a Master's Degree was preferred; that type of decision would need to be made obviously before you advertise. Same thing in terms of where you want to advertise; what scope geographically. The other element, your Charter does allow you to hire an outside consulting firm, a kind of a head hunter concept, if that's something the Council's interested in; that's a possibility. It's not required. But those are some of the items that the Council needs to consider in going forward. The other element would be, it's presumably going to be very difficult, I think, for all of Council to be involved in each step of this process. Previously you had set up a committee, that tends to work better.

Vice Mayor Booros: We also have a Personnel Committee, that is already established.

Seth Thompson: Right and that's a very logical way to handle it, that if Council wants to assign that task to the Personnel Committee, then that...

Vice Mayor Booros: Maybe to look at the qualifications and bring it forward to Council.

Seth Thompson: Exactly.

Mayor Jones: So actually the discussion tonight requires no action?

Seth Thompson: Correct. These are just things that the Council would want to be thinking about. Again we have a meeting next week, but I just wanted to lay out the hiring process, or potential process that the Council can take.

Mayor Jones: Is there any further discussion? I would like to, if it's acceptable, there are members here of course our Personnel Committee and I think there's a need to almost set aside a time, as we also passed a budget that had a raise in it, that is based on merit, so the Personnel Committee will need to review that. Would this be an okay time to schedule a time together? Would this committee be available on the 3rd of October? It's a Thursday.

Councilman Collier: Yes, I'm good.

Councilwoman Parker-Selby: Yes. 4:45, same time?

Mayor Jones: 4:45 on the 3rd. Thank you.

- b. Consideration to approve reimbursement of a building permit fee

Mayor Jones: We'll move ahead then. In your package you'll find a consideration to approve reimbursement of a building permit fee. The Milton Volunteer Fire Company

went through the proper channels to secure a permit to put up their new sign. I was contacted by a member of the Fire Company, expressing that they did not have a problem with having paid the money, but after all they do, a lot of the advertising for the Town and our events and I couldn't disagree with that at all and so you'll find there a letter dated September 13th from Jack Bushey making a request that we could reimburse the \$330.95 that the Town charged to Phillip's Sign on behalf of the Fire Company.

Councilman West: Madame Mayor, I'd like to make the motion that we reimburse them this amount of money, \$330.95, for the good of the community.

Councilwoman Patterson: I second.

Mayor Jones: We have a motion and a second. Is there any further discussion on this?

Seth Thompson: Mayor, it's also important to note that they really perform kind of a traditional municipal function, so I view the Fire Department as being different from a lot of other people. For instance, your Charter lets you donate as much as 7% of your property taxes to the fire company; again, seemingly based on the notion that they're doing something that the Town might otherwise need to provide. So I just note that. I don't want to open the floodgates here, where the Town is then flooded with requests for fee waivers. I think this is a very unique applicant.

Mayor Jones: Well and it does state here that the sign is used for community service and I certainly couldn't argue with that. I did advise them that perhaps it would be easier next time to come forward ahead of time and ask for a waiver; rather than a reimbursement.

So we have a motion, we have a second on the table.

Councilman West: That's what I told them, too, Mayor Jones, when they approached me before they called you.

Mayor Jones: All those in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

10. Adjournment

Mayor Jones: Do I hear a motion to adjourn?

Councilman West: I make a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Patterson: Second.

Mayor Jones: No discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed. Motion carried.